

Members

Rep. James Buck, Chairperson  
Rep. Thomas Saunders  
Rep. Jeb Bardon  
Rep. Dan Stevenson  
Sen. James Merritt  
Sen. Brent Waltz  
Sen. Richard Young  
Sen. James Lewis



# STATE HOUSE MUSEUM COMMITTEE

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Authority: P. L. 117-2005

## MEETING MINUTES<sup>1</sup>

**Meeting Date:** October 21, 2005  
**Meeting Time:** 2:00 P.M.  
**Meeting Place:** State House, 200 W. Washington St.,  
Room 130  
**Meeting City:** Indianapolis, Indiana  
**Meeting Number:** 3

**Members Present:** Rep. James Buck, Chairperson; Rep. Thomas Saunders; Sen. James Merritt; Sen. Brent Waltz; Sen. James Lewis.

**Members Absent:** Rep. Jeb Bardon; Rep. Dan Stevenson; Sen. Richard Young.

Chairman Buck called the third State House Museum Committee meeting to order at 2:00 P.M. The Chairman summarized the reasons for the Committee's work in the 2005 interim and opened the floor for testimony.

Bonnie Coughlin, Architect, Indiana Department of Administration-

Ms. Coughlin briefly discussed some points regarding the museum. She said that occupants could be moved and that space is needed for air conditioning the Rotunda. She continued that 1,828 square feet were available for a 60-seat assembly area. She explained that a maximum of 60 people could be safely placed in the space.

Ms. Coughlin stated that a small museum would fit into a space of 380 square feet and the gift shop into a space of 720 square feet. She continued that there would be need for an access ramp, a second exit, and additional first-floor restroom capacity.

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<sup>1</sup> Exhibits and other materials referenced in these minutes can be inspected and copied in the Legislative Information Center in Room 230 of the State House in Indianapolis, Indiana. Requests for copies may be mailed to the Legislative Information Center, Legislative Services Agency, 200 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2789. A fee of \$0.15 per page and mailing costs will be charged for copies. These minutes are also available on the Internet at the General Assembly homepage. The URL address of the General Assembly homepage is <http://www.in.gov/legislative/>. No fee is charged for viewing, downloading, or printing minutes from the Internet.

Ms. Coughlin spoke about the storage facilities that currently occupy the first floor. She said the courts would have to move their storage to accommodate the air-conditioning project.

Connie Kay Nass, Auditor of State-

Auditor Nass explained that the Auditor's office must keep six years of records. She said that a substantial number of her staff and storage are on the first floor, but that none of the Auditor's space is under the Rotunda. She said the programmers need to be close to the payroll and accounting department. Separation of these departments would be detrimental to working relations. She continued that there is a need for dry storage space for checks and cool space for the computer mainframe system. She said that mold and brown recluse spiders are problematic, and that efforts have been made to eradicate the spiders from their storage and work areas.

Auditor Nass said that she thought it was fantastic and very forward thinking for students to suggest opening up the west side.

Auditor Nass also realized that there would be thousands of people going by a high security area, where the checks are printed and distributed.

Philip Sachtleben, Executive Director, Legislative Services Agency-

Mr. Sachtleben specified that the LSA uses a first-floor storage area as a storage transshipment point. He said that the LSA maintains a peak-level printer in the storage facility.

Mr. Sachtleben stated it does not necessarily matter that the peak printer is located in the storage facility. However, Mr. Sachtleben concluded that the printer must be readily available to the LSA in a location that would allow for storage of large amounts of paper on skids.

Mr. Sachtleben provided some statistics on the usage of the high-speed printer. He said there are 300,000 impressions made and 10 M sheets of paper used per year. He continued that on a peak night, 750,000 sheets of paper are used.

Mr. Sachtleben said that the LSA has employees that handle money on a regular basis. He said that if needed, the LSA could offer small desk-type items such as pencils in the second-floor Legislative Information Center. He said the sale of items would require the LSA to provide a receipt to a purchaser. He suggested that bulk purchases by schools would simplify this process.

Dr. Sonne Palmer, Professor of Architecture, Ball State University-

Dr. Palmer gave a handout (Exhibit A) to the Committee that listed the faculty and students involved in the museum design project. He described what the students are doing to design a solution. He said the students have gone through every level of the State House, including up into the dome to evaluate available space.

Dr. Palmer also said that the students have studied what other states have done. He said the students have approached the problem with an east-west solution in mind. He noted that children and adults congregating into the same shop would not be the best mix.

Nicholas Martz, Architecture Student, Ball State University-

Mr. Martz presented an overview of the analysis conducted on the State House. He said the intent would be to create a museum in the State House. He also stated that the State House dome was a unique and key feature as well. He said that the structure is hidden on the lower level and that the quality of the lower level could be improved. Although hard to get around now, Mr. Martz offered that an opportunity could exist to move the media from the ground floor into a better location.

Shannon Staicer, Architecture Student, Ball State University-

Shannon Staicer testified it would be interesting to display a glass case of a model of the State House in the Rotunda area, which would make a good gathering place for kids.

Jevon Ritchey, Architecture Student, Ball State University-

Mr. Ritchey said that he cannot see the internal structure of the building. He said he would like to reveal the structure. He suggested exposing the large monolithic columns to create a sacred space inside of them. He mentioned transferring the media to the north end of the building to open space up. He also would relocate the snack bar.

Mr. Ritchey said he would put in new flooring and hang portraits of Indiana's governors, place paneling on walls, and change the lighting to create a learning environment for kids.

Jason Brenneman, Architecture Student, Ball State University-

Mr. Brenneman stated he would open up the east-west corridor of the building and section off with columns. He added that kids could use remote controls to see different parts of the building. He would also expand the concession stand to a coffee shop and small kitchen.

He said he would revitalize the existing hallways and, if possible, add another staircase for added connectivity to the second floor. He thought it would be interesting to show the blacksmith's space, install an underground parking garage, and incorporate a large exhibit space.

Jacob Lloyd, Architecture Student, Ball State University-

Mr. Lloyd stated that the students were in the final phase of reaching a solution. He stated that the solution could involve a plan to dedicate space, such as the north parking lot, to the Community of Indianapolis. He suggested prioritizing parking underneath the State House to connect the State House and a future Courts building.

David Mallory, Architecture Student, Ball State University-

Mr. Mallory said he supported a child/adult gift shop. He also suggested a park meeting area for kids to assemble before entrance to the museum.

Jennifer Hodge, Tours Coordinator, Indiana Department of Administration-

Ms. Hodge thanked the Committee for their time and consideration. She said that she sees lots of possibilities to build up a nice drop-off spot for students.

Mr. Martz followed Mr. Mallory by suggesting a park would serve as a better circulation path for students than cutting across the existing parking lot. Mr. Martz also said that Indiana is one of a very few states that house all three branches of government in the same building. He expressed concerns on the immediate problem of finding a suitable place to assemble persons.

Following testimony, Chairman Buck thanked and told the Ball State students that he appreciated their efforts on their project. He liked the concept of placing a replica dome on the west end of the State House as a gathering place for tour groups. He also said he would like to see easier access for students that arrive to the State House by bus. The Chairman said he would like to see a gift shop placed into the State House as soon as possible, and would like to see Legislative Council action to expedite the gift shop.

Chairman Buck set the next meeting date for the Committee on Monday, November 21, 2005, at 2:00 P.M., pending approval by the Legislative Council. He stated he would like to receive recommendations for the final report a week in advance of the next meeting. He adjourned the Committee at 3:27 P.M.